

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing professional services, the method comprising the following performed by a data processing system:

accepting entry of information associated with a medical matter of a person, wherein the information is entered by the person via a client device in communication with the data processing system;

assigning the person to one of a plurality of pools of people based on the entered information and one or more attributes of a professional services provider qualified to advise people in respective pools;

allowing the professional services provider qualified to advise people in the assigned pool to view the entered information; and

providing a secure area within which the professional services provider provides information advising the person about the medical matter in response to receipt of the entered information, wherein the secure area is accessible by the person via the client device; and

allowing the person to access the secure area and view the information provided by the professional services provider.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising notifying the person that the professional services provider has provided information about the matter within the secure area.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the information is entered by the person in a predetermined, structured format.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the following performed prior to accepting entry of information associated with a matter of a person:

identifying the person; and

verifying that the person is eligible to receive professional services.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of providing healthcare services to patients, the method comprising the following performed by a data processing system:

accepting entry of information about a medical condition of a patient, wherein the information is entered by the patient via a client device in communication with the data processing system;

assigning the patient to one of a plurality of pools of patients based on the entered patient information and one or more attributes of a healthcare provider qualified to treat patients in respective pools;

allowing the healthcare provider qualified to treat patients in the assigned pool to view the patient information; ~~and~~

providing a secure area within which the healthcare provider provides a diagnosis, a treatment recommendation, or a combination thereof, for the medical condition of the patient in response to receipt of the entered information, wherein the secure area is accessible by the patient via the client device; and

allowing the patient to access the secure area and view the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, provided by the healthcare provider.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, further comprising notifying the patient that the healthcare provider has provided the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, for the medical condition of the patient within the secure area.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the information is entered by the patient in a predetermined, structured format.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein a treatment recommendation provided by the healthcare provider includes a medication prescription, and further comprising communicating the medication prescription to a pharmacy for fulfillment.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the following performed prior to accepting entry of information about a medical condition of a patient:
identifying the patient; and
verifying that the patient is eligible to receive healthcare services.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim ~~8~~7, wherein allowing the patient to access the secure area and view the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, provided by the healthcare provider comprises allowing the patient to select a specific medication prescription for treating the patient.

15. (Currently Amended) A data processing system that facilitates the provision of professional services, comprising at least one computer configured to:

~~accept~~means for accepting entry of information associated with a medical matter of a person, wherein the information is entered by the person via a client device in communication with the data processing system;

~~assign~~means for assigning the person to one of a plurality of pools of people based on the entered information and one or more attributes of a professional services provider qualified to advise people in respective pools;

~~allow~~means for allowing the professional services provider qualified to advise people in the assigned pool to view the entered information; ~~and~~

~~provide~~means for providing a secure area within which the professional services provider provides information advising the person about the medical matter in response to receipt of the entered information, wherein the secure area is accessible by the person via the client device; and

allow the person to access the secure area and view the information provided by the professional services provider.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) The data processing system according to claim 15, wherein the computer is further comprising means for configured to notifying notify the person that the professional services provider has provided information about the matter within the secure area.

18. (Currently Amended) The data processing system according to claim 15, wherein the ~~is~~ information is entered by the person in a predetermined, structured format.

19. (Currently Amended) The data processing system according to claim 15, wherein the computer is further comprising configured to:

identify means for identifying the person; and

verify means for verifying that the person is eligible to receive professional services.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A data processing system that facilitates the provision of healthcare services to patients, comprising:

means for accepting entry of information about a medical condition of a patient, wherein the information is entered by the patient via a client device in communication with the data processing system;

means for assigning the patient to one of a plurality of pools of patients based on the entered patient information and one or more attributes of a healthcare provider qualified to treat patients in respective pools;

means for allowing the healthcare provider qualified to treat patients in the assigned pool to view the patient information; ~~and~~

means for providing a secure area within which the healthcare provider provides a diagnosis, a treatment recommendation, or a combination thereof, for the medical condition of the patient in response to receipt of the entered information, wherein the secure area is accessible by the patient via the client device; and

means for allowing the patient to access the secure area and view the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, provided by the healthcare provider.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The data processing system according to claim 21, further comprising means for notifying the patient that the healthcare provider has provided the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, for the medical condition of the patient within the secure area.

24. (Original) The data processing system according to claim 21, wherein the information is entered by the patient in a predetermined, structured format.

25. (Original) The data processing system according to claim 21, wherein a treatment recommendation provided by the healthcare provider includes a medication prescription, and further comprising means for communicating the medication prescription to a pharmacy for fulfillment.

26. (Original) The data processing system according to claim 21, further comprising:
means for identifying the patient; and
means for verifying that the patient is eligible to receive healthcare services.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The data processing system according to claim ~~22~~21, wherein the means for allowing the patient to access the secure area and view the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, provided by the healthcare provider comprises means for allowing the patient to select a specific medication prescription for treating the patient.

29. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that facilitates the provision of professional services, the computer program product comprising a tangible computer usable storage medium having computer readable program code embodied in the medium, the computer readable program code comprising:

computer readable program code that accepts entry of information associated with a medical matter of a person, wherein the information is entered by the person via a client device in communication with the data processing system;

computer readable program code that assigns the person to one of a plurality of pools of people based on the entered information and one or more attributes of a professional services provider qualified to advise people in respective pools;

computer readable program code that allows the professional services provider qualified to advise people in the assigned pool to view the entered information; ~~and~~

computer readable program code that provides a secure area within which the professional services provider provides information advising the person about the medical matter in response to receipt of the entered information, wherein the secure area is accessible by the person via the client device; and

computer readable program code that allows the person to access the secure area and view the information provided by the professional services provider.

30. (Canceled)

31. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 29, further comprising computer readable program code that notifies the person that the professional services provider has provided information about the matter within the secure area.

32. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 29, wherein the information is entered by the person in a predetermined, structured format.

33. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 29, further comprising:

computer readable program code that identifies the person; and
computer readable program code that verifies that the person is eligible to receive professional services.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) A computer program product that facilitates the provision of healthcare services to patients, the computer program product comprising a tangible computer usable storage medium having computer readable program code embodied in the medium, the computer readable program code comprising:

computer readable program code that accepts entry of information about a medical condition of a patient, wherein the information is entered by the patient via a client device in communication with the data processing system;

computer readable program code that assigns the patient to one of a plurality of pools of patients based on the entered patient information and one or more attributes of a healthcare provider qualified to treat patients in respective pools;

computer readable program code that allows the healthcare provider qualified to treat patients in the assigned pool to view the patient information; ~~and~~

computer readable program code that provides a secure area within which the healthcare provider provides diagnosis, a treatment recommendation, or a combination thereof, for the medical condition of the patient in response to receipt of the entered information, wherein the secure area is accessible by the patient via the client device; and

computer readable program code that allows the patient to access the secure area and view the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, provided by the healthcare provider.

36. (Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) The computer program product according to claim 35, further comprising computer readable program code that notifies the patient that the healthcare provider has provided the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, for the medical condition of the patient within the secure area.

38. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 35, wherein the information is entered by the patient in a predetermined, structured format.

39. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 35, wherein a treatment recommendation provided by the healthcare provider includes a medication prescription, and further comprising computer readable program code that communicates the medication prescription to a pharmacy for fulfillment.

40. (Original) The computer program product according to claim 35, further comprising:
computer readable program code that identifies the patient; and
computer readable program code that verifies that the patient is eligible to receive healthcare services.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Currently Amended) The computer program product according to claim ~~36~~35, wherein the computer readable program code that allows the patient to access the secure area and view the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, provided by the healthcare provider comprises computer readable program code that allows the patient to select a specific medication prescription for treating the patient.

43. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the information comprises billing data for an amount of money owed to the professional services provider for providing the information advising the person about the medical matter.

44. (New) The method according to claim 7, further comprising:
providing billing data along with the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, the billing data comprises information for an amount of money owed to the healthcare provider for providing the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof.

45. (New) The data processing system according to claim 15, wherein the information comprises billing data for an amount of money owed to the professional services provider for providing the information advising the person about the medical matter.

46. (New) The data processing system according to claim 21, further comprising:
means for providing billing data along with the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, the billing data comprises information for an amount of money owed to the healthcare provider for providing the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof.

47. (New) The computer program product according to claim 29, wherein the information comprises billing data for an amount of money owed to the professional services provider for providing the information advising the person about the medical matter.

48. (New) The computer program product according to claim 35, further comprising:
computer readable program code that provides billing data along with the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof, the billing data comprises information for an amount of money owed to the healthcare provider for providing the diagnosis, the treatment recommendation, or the combination thereof.